

22. (New) The process of claim 1 wherein the double bond isomerization catalyst is for the conversion of internally olefinic compounds to alpha olefinic compounds. -

ay --23. (New) A process for activating a basic metal oxide isomerization catalyst which comprises at least one step of contacting the basic metal oxide catalyst under activation conditions with a flowing atmosphere consisting essentially of a dry inert gas which has been passed through an oxygen removal system so as to contain no more than about 5 ppm molecular oxygen by volume.